

From: This Week @ EPA [epanews@epa.gov]
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Subject: This Week @ EPA - September 28, 2022

THIS WEEK @ EPA



EPA Launches New National Program Office

EPA recently announced the establishment of a new national program office charged with advancing environmental justice and civil rights. The new program will dedicate more than 200 EPA staff in EPA headquarters and across 10 regions toward solving environmental challenges in communities that have been underserved for far too long.



Photo of the Week: Peak fall color at Wolverine Peak, Alaska, taken by Sandra Halstead in the Region 10 Alaska Operations Office.

Fall Photo Call 📷

Fall is in the air. Please share your fall-themed photos with us. For examples of previous uses of these photos and for submission details, please connect to VPN and see our [photo call information](#) on the EPA@Work intranet. We've added a [photo upload tool](#) to make it even easier to submit your photos. Send any questions to internalcomms@epa.gov. ~ The Office of Internal Communications

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IN CASE YOU MISSED IT

Mass Mailers

- Agency Postpones [Event in Honor of the New Agency Office](#) for Environmental Justice and External Civil Rights.
- Office of Civil Rights Director Shares Message on EPA's [FY2021 Management Directive 715 Report](#) Along with Invitation to Upcoming State of EEO Briefing.
- Deputy Administrator [Announces Celebration](#) for Re-dedication of Rachel Carson Great Hall.

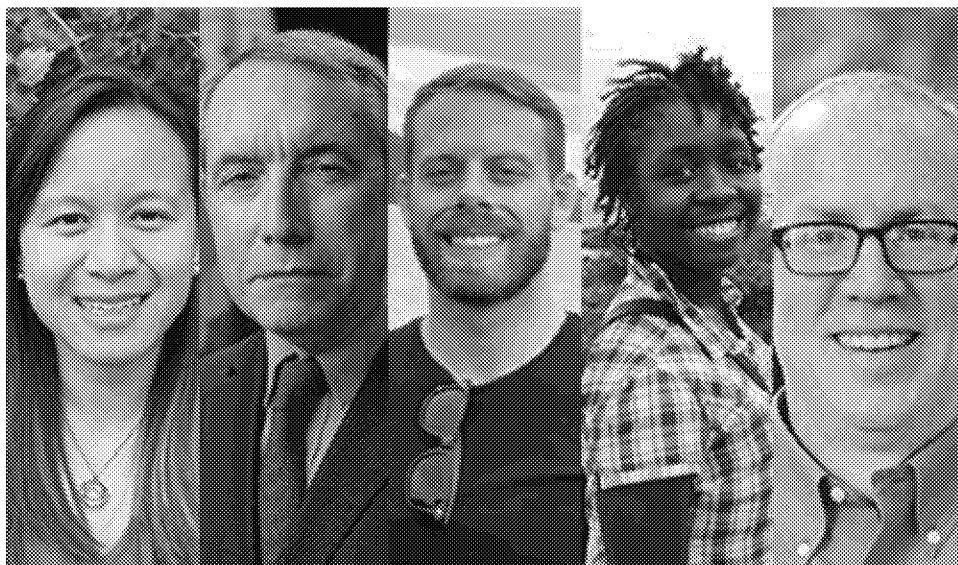
- Announcement on EPA's [CO2 Monitoring Program](#).
- Final Push for [Feds Feed Families](#) – Campaign Ends September 30.

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News Releases

- Cindy Newberg, EPA Career Employee, Earns Prestigious Public Service Award for [Landmark Ozone and HFC Actions](#).
- EPA, Commission for Environmental Cooperation Announce [\\$2 Million EJ4Climate Grant Program](#).
- EPA's [GreenChill Program](#) Celebrates 15 Years of Supporting Smart Refrigerant Management Across the Supermarket Industry.
- EPA [Honors 17 Home Builders and Raters](#) for Providing Healthier Indoor Air.
- EPA [Launches New National Program Office](#) Dedicated to Advancing Environmental Justice and Civil Rights.
 - ICYMI: EPA Administrator Regan [Launches New National Program Office](#) Dedicated to Advancing Environmental Justice and Civil Rights.
- Statement by Administrator Regan about [Ongoing Water Crisis](#) in Jackson, Mississippi.
- EPA Announces [\\$315 Million WIFIA Loan](#) to Increase Water Treatment Capacity and Reduce Emerging Contaminants in Nashville, Tennessee.

[Browse News Releases >](#)



We appreciate EPA employees and their contributions!

Kristine Pordesimo, OLEM

In honor of Emergency Preparedness Month, we highlight Kristine Pordesimo. Kristine is an engineer in EPA's Office of Emergency Management in the Office of Land and Emergency Management. She works with the agency's oil spill prevention and preparedness regulations. Get to [know more about Kristine](#).

Ray Clark, OAR

We introduce Ray Clark from the Office of Air and Radiation. Ray is a health physicist in the Office of Radiation and Indoor Air, Radiation Protection Division. He has led and been involved with many high-level EPA projects including spent nuclear fuel, transuranic radioactive waste standards, and the Yucca Mountain standards. Get to [know more about Ray](#).

Pedro Perez, OIG

In honor of Hispanic Heritage Month, we are featuring Pedro, who is the son of two Cuban-born parents and has a unique life story. His father first settled in New York before moving to Miami as a young boy. His mother is a "Marielita" – one of the approximately 125,000 Cubans who fled the island in 1980. His family members escaped an authoritarian regime to seek the "American Dream" – the chance at life, liberty, and pursuit of happiness. Get to [know more about Pedro](#).

Rachel Olugbemi, Region 1

We introduce Rachel Olugbemi from Region 1. Rachel currently works as a Clean Water Act inspector working to protect New England's beloved waterbodies from pollution. Rachel accomplished many things before joining EPA and uses her past experiences and science background to help with the enforcement of environmental permits and regulations. Get to [know more about Rachel](#).

William Wheeler, OP

Will Wheeler is an Economist at EPA's National Center for Environmental Economics where he works on projects supporting the Office of Water's regulations and the Office of Enforcement and Compliance Assurance (OECA). His ongoing work continues to help OECA meet its strategic goal of reducing significant noncompliance. Get to [know more about Will](#).

[Nominate an employee >](#)



Fight the Flu

According to the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention, the best way to prevent the flu is by getting vaccinated annually. Contact your local health unit, health clinic, or pharmacy to find flu vaccines near you. [Learn more about flu vaccinations.](#)

CX Day Announcement

Join EPA's Customer Experience (CX) Community to celebrate CX Day! This year's CX day is Tuesday, October 4. CX Day, founded by the Customer Experience Professionals Association, is officially recognized on the first Tuesday in October each year by the US Congress. [Learn more about Customer Experience \(CX\) Community Day.](#)

EPA Celebrates 16th Annual Conflict Resolution Day

Join the Conflict Prevention and Resolution Center in October to improve your conflict resolution skills in support of your work. Activities begin on October 13 with a lunch and learn session titled, "Public Involvement in EPA: Working better together through collaboration." [Register today.](#)

IT Corner: Windows 11 update

What to Expect: Your system is currently running Windows 10. Between Fall 2022 and Spring 2023, all EPA employees will be required to install Windows 11 to remain current with Microsoft's security requirements and support services. When you receive the pop-up window on your EPA computer, please [take these actions to complete the update.](#)

Group coaching

New Group Coaching sessions on a variety of topics will start October 10. This service is available to all EPA employees. Typically, sessions are one hour long and facilitated by a coach in a confidential setting for small groups of 5-10 people. [Learn more about the Group Coaching sessions.](#)

New employee acclimation roadmap to success

Are you new to the agency? The New Employee Acclimation Roadmap and Syllabus are new additions to the New Employee Toolkit, outlining engagement activities, learning sessions, training events, benefits selection dates, and other important milestones to acclimate new employees to the agency. [Learn more about the new syllabus.](#)

[**Internal News >**](#)



View Deputy Administrator Janet McCabe's [Closing Campaign Video](#).

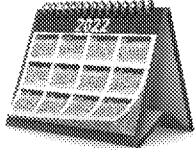
End of Season Season's Campaign

The Feds Feed Families 2022 campaign comes to a close September 30. EPA, along with other federal agencies, has contributed greatly to this important effort. Together, we donated impressive amounts of food to help those in our communities who lack access to nutritious food. [We applaud your contributions and willingness to help.](#)



Advancing Environmental Justice and Civil Rights

U.S. EPA Administrator Michael S. Regan recently announced the establishment of a new national office charged with advancing environmental justice and civil rights. The creation of the new Office of Environmental Justice and External Civil Rights delivers on President Biden's commitment to elevate these critical issues to the highest levels of the government and solidifies the agency's commitment to delivering justice and equity for all. [Watch the recorded event.](#)



- Sept. 28:** [Anti-Harassment Information and Listening Session](#)
- Sept. 29:** [EPAs State of EEO Briefing](#)
- Sept. 29:** [FY22 Navigating EOY In USAP \(Employee/Supervisors\)](#)
- Oct. 3:** [GeoPlatform Webinar Series](#)
- Oct. 4:** [Customer Experience \(CX\) Day 2022](#)
- Oct. 5:** [Join the Cut Your Carbon Footprint Challenge](#)
- Oct. 5:** [Introduction to Regulations.gov](#)
- Oct. 5:** [GIS Workgroup Monthly Meeting](#)
- Oct. 6:** [EPA Qlik User Group](#)

Please visit the [agency calendar](#) (VPN required) to add agency events to your Outlook calendar. For help adding agency calendar items to your Outlook calendar, please see: [How to Easily Add Agency Calendar Events to Outlook](#).

[View Agency Calendar >](#)

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